



# PREF PROPELLER

Volume 1, Issue 24

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## SUPT.'S CORNER

By: Michael Lloyd, Superintendent

This is an official announcement declaring Westendorf to no longer be the "Honor Dorm." I should not need to declare a specific dorm an honor dorm. The theory behind this facility is that all of the housing units should operate as an honor dorm. It is a privilege to be a resident of PREF, not a right. I realize now that tolerating behavior not conducive to re-entry detracts from the positive environment that we have created. We want to afford everyone the opportunity to participate in the many programs we have to offer. However, if residents are not willing to participate in programs or are consistently acting inappropriately (swearing, unkempt appearance, etc.), we need to reconsider their residency here. The expectation is that everyone maintain a high standard of living under minimal supervision so that all of the housing units operate as an "honor dorm."

## OPINION COLUMN

**Topic:** Stem cell research. Good or bad idea?

Stem cell research is, in my opinion, beyond a good thing. This science holds the promise of disease cures. President Bush's order would not allow researchers to do anything they could not do under existing restrictions.

He vetoed similar embryonic stem cell legislation last July.

It should continue being brought up until there is a pro-stem cell president and a stem cell Congress.

Public opinion polls show strong for the research.

Currently, federal support is limited to research on stem cells that existed as of Aug. 9, 2001. The last bill was aimed at lifting that restriction.

- Dwight Cobbs #891991

Okay, first off, I did not really come into this with a lot of knowledge on stem cell research, but I was updated on some information; but still, I do not believe I have enough knowledge on the subject.

So to start stem cell research is a very good thing if and foremost the volunteer, donor, deceased donor are willing. I mean look at the advantage of stem cell research, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, etc. The list just keeps going on and on. I mean, look at it like this, we could possibly have saved Superman, but no, so now he has passed. Even the strongest need help. Therefore, I believe that there is nothing wrong with this judging from the knowledge of the subject that I have.

- Robert Harmon #108754

As the scientific medical community continues to progress, more and more objection arises. Whether it is beliefs, morals, or just plain opinion, something is going to clash. A true Jehovah's Witness

will not have a blood transfusion, even if they will lose their life without it.

Now we have been introduced to stem cell research, and the “moral” tug of war is on. Is this the medical miracle that makes Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, and paralysis a bad memory? I deal with Parkinson’s disease every day, and at this time, I disagree with using stem cell replacement from any source other than the patient. Until I can donate my own tissue from which stem cells can be grown, I choose not to participate.

Now, here’s the kicker. What will I do if one of my children has Parkinson’s disease, and the cure becomes stem cell replacement from donated fetal tissue?

- Jonny Whickham #137657

**Next week’s topic:** For or against uniforms for all Indiana school students?

## **INDOT EX-OFFENDER PROGRAM**

**By: Brandye Hendrickson, Deputy  
Commissioner and Director of Human  
Resources**

INDOT will create about 20 new Highway Technician positions. These positions will be for the purpose of placement of graduates from the PREF/Major Opportunities Ivy Tech training program upon release. Depending on the personal need of the ex-offender to help ensure success of the program, the position could be sent out to any of our locations throughout the State. Once the position is vacated, it would return to the pool for use for future graduates. Upon entry into the program, these individuals would be full time, permanent State employees, hired at the HT prep level. They would participate in the HT academy like all other employees hired at the prep level and have the same training and promotional opportunities. The

HT curriculum consists of training in Construction, Maintenance, Traffic and Testing in addition to basic computer, math and reading skills.

If any resident is interested in participating in this program, contact your specialist as soon as possible.

## **PHYSICAL PLANT DEPARTMENT**

**By: Dalton Haney, PIO**

I would like to take the time to acknowledge the PREF Physical Plant Department. Quite often the Maintenance staff, and the work they do, is overlooked. Many times the only time that staff or residents notice their performance is when they are fixing something that is broken. The Maintenance staff are the behind the scenes type who keep the facility alive. I am sure that everyone here has noticed that this is a big facility, and we have very minimal staff that keeps it working properly. Please take the time to thank the maintenance staff that makes it possible to turn on the water, the lights, and to communicate from building to building. On behalf of all PREF staff and residents, thank you women and men.

## **URBAN UNITY GAVEL CLUB HITS MILESTONE**

**By: Dianne Murer, Volunteer**

The Urban Unity Toastmaster Gavel Club of Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility (PREF), which was chartered one year ago, awarded its first Competent Communicator award to Mr. Ken Heuser Monday evening, June 25, 2007.

Educational programs are the heart of a Toastmasters club. It is the means through which communication and leadership skills are achieved while becoming better communicators. The Competent

Communicator Manual has 10 speech projects that help develop one's speaking skills one step at a time. Every project builds upon what was learned in the preceding project. Members prepare and present each project, learning the importance of organization and how to use body language. Voice inflection, vocabulary, and use visual aids are components of the program. Persuasive and inspirational speeches are requirements for the award. An evaluator offers feedback on each speech presented. When a club member completes the first manual they receive Competent Communicator (CC) Award, then they can work in the Advanced Communication manuals. Using these manuals they can refine and enhance their speaking skills. There are 15 manuals, each containing five speech projects. Many of the manuals are career-oriented.

Members of the Urban Unity Gavel Club have found their Toastmaster experience to help them think on their feet, say what they really want to say, prepare them for future job interviews, and to help them to listen for a better quality personal life. The club is expected to award two more Competent Communicators in the next month.

For more information, contact Ms. Judy Helms, Community Service Coordinator, Mr. Dwight Cobbs, Resident, PIO Clerk, and President of The Urban Unity Toastmaster Gavel Club of PREF, Young dorm.

Meetings are Monday evenings at 6:15pm.

## **CULINARY ARTS**

**By: Dwight Cobbs, PIO Clerk**

Congratulations! to the newest graduating class of the Culinary Arts and the Serv Safe Program here at PREF.

Mr. Antwan McLay and Mr. Maurice Beverly both completed the Culinary Arts

class curriculum as well as having passed the Serv Safe exam. While Mr. Camerinn Crowe, Mr. Christian Surface, and Russell Fox not having completed quite enough curriculum hours to complete the class, took and passed the Serv Safe exam.

Congratulations! to you all. The best of luck to you in your future endeavors in the field of Culinary Arts or elsewhere.

## **EAT SMART**

**By: Jean Carper**

Cutting down on salt is not just for reducing blood pressure anymore. It also may lower your long-term odds of heart attack, stroke and cardiovascular death by 25%, says a new study from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Researchers analyzed the effects of reducing sodium intake by 25% to 30% after 10 to 15 years in large-scale studies. Their conclusion: Cutting sodium is a good way to prevent cardiovascular disease in general – not only high blood pressure – and it has no harmful effects.

## **SPORTS**

**By: Dwight Cobbs, PIO Clerk**

Listed below are the scores for the PREF softball tournament games that have been played after June 5, 2007 to date: (Note: The winning teams are in bold type).

### **June 10, 2007**

**White 24**, Hornaday 7

Barnett 1, **Calvert 13**

### **June 12, 2007**

White 3, **Curl 16**

**Barnett 27**, Hornaday 8

### **June 17, 2007**

Barnett 3, **Curl 23**

**Hornaday 13**, Calvert Forfeit

### **June 19, 2007**

**White 15**, Barnett 12

**Curl 39**, Hornaday 4

## **JOB OPENINGS**

**By: Dwight Cobbs, PIO Clerk**

Here is a list of some of the jobs that are currently available here at PREF:

### **Sanitation:**

- Stegemiller – 1 full time / 1 part time (GED)
- Young
- Tanner
- Vocational Bldg/Physical Plant

### **Substance Abuse clerk**

### **Concrete Crew**

### **Lt. Maxey's Crew**

### **Outside Fence Jobs:**

- IYC Warehouse (requires 1-O) – 2 positions open
- IYC Flooring and Fencing Crew (1-O/1-R) – 4 positions open

Any resident interested in any of the above listed jobs, contact Mr. Smith, Classification Specialist III, located in Johnston/Walsh.

## **JUST A THOUGHT**

**By: Dwight Cobbs, PIO Clerk**

Don't be afraid to encounter risks; it is by taking chances that we learn to be brave.

- Anonymous

## **HAVE A LAUGH**

**By: Dwight Cobbs, PIO Clerk**

We are becoming a cashless society. It's just that some of us are ahead of our time.

## **CORRECTION**

**By: Dwight Cobbs, PIO Clerk**

In the June 20, 2007 edition of the PREF PROPELLER (page 3) there was an article written about a religious service event, taking place on the 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 23, 2007 from 6:15pm to 8:30pm. It was **not** the

21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>, but on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the 26<sup>th</sup>. Sorry for the confusion.

Suggestions for The PREF Propeller should be e-mailed to Mr. Dalton Haney, PREF PIO, with a subject line of "PREF Propeller" or given to Mr. Dwight Cobbs, PREF PIO Clerk, Young-dorm.